



May 5, 2005

House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer
U.S. House of Representatives
H-206 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
Via email: alexis.covey-brandt@mail.house.gov

Dear Representative Hoyer:

The Forum For Youth Investment supports The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005. This Act authorizes funding for full-service community schools, which are schools that incorporate the work of community organizations and public/private partnerships in educational or social programs. The Act recognizes the importance of utilizing community resources and public/private partnerships in public schools in order to provide effective and efficient services for children and families.

The Forum is committed to improving the coordination, delivery, effectiveness, and efficiency of services provided to children, youth and families. We feel strongly that ensuring that all youth be ready for college, work and life, means pushing beyond the traditional boundaries of the school day, school building and the school agenda. There is growing evidence that school/community partnerships improve the capacity of individuals, schools and communities to support learning, and community schools are one of the most concrete examples of how the concept of community partnership can be used to transform a school into a community institution for expanded learning.

Representative Hoyer, we applaud your efforts in this initiative and we support The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus Ferber
Program Director

Cc: Meagan Lindsay, Executive Assistant, Institute for Educational Leadership